

Over the next three weeks, **multiply** addresses the motivations and methods most frequently found in studying the Bible. We want the Inductive Study Companion to equip you to not only be able to study the Bible for yourself but to be able to take someone else through these three weeks and show them how and why to study the Bible for themselves. In other words, we want to equip you to be a disciple maker.

You are to be commended for “going the extra mile” as you have studied and perhaps lead your own multiply group using this companion. You have spent many hours in prayer and searching the Scriptures. It is our prayer and hope that the Holy Spirit has met you and taught you as only He can. God Himself is our great reward. Persevere; don’t stop now. May the Lord make your life and the lives of those who follow you fruitful for Him. May He multiply your efforts!

### **Part 3, Chapter 1 – Why Study The Bible?**

#### Day One:

WHY we study the Bible, becomes the big factor in HOW we do it. What is your motivation, your “why,” for studying the Bible? As you study, ask the Lord to show you His heart.

1) Read *p.91-93* from **multiply** and answer question #1 below:

2) Read *p. 93-95* from **multiply**. Answer question #2 and list the wrong reasons for studying the Bible. Are there any pitfalls to having a “negative” motivation to study the Bible? If so, what?

3) **Why did God give us the Bible?**

a) To Intimately Know and Communicate with God - Write out the Scriptures below.

Note what you learn. Who are you in relationship with? How? Ask the Holy Spirit to be your teacher. (Look at the surrounding context.)

i) **John 1:14**

ii) **John 10:14, 15**

iii) **John 14:17**

b) To Teach Us about Ourselves and the World We Live In

Take a brief look at some of the questions and answers we find in the Scriptures. There is truly a treasure trove to be found! The purpose of this section is for you to begin to see the depth and range of topics and life changing effect of the Scriptures.

Caution for Leaders: *Do not* try to address all of the issues raised. We want the questions raised to drive people to the Word for answers, not to you. Leave them thirsty and wanting more from the Lord! (Psalm 42:1)

i) *Where did we come from?*

**Genesis 1:1, 26, 27**

**Genesis 2:7**

**Psalm 103:13-18, esp. 14-15**

*ii) What is my purpose in life?*

**Deuteronomy 6:4-7; Matthew 22: 37-40**

**Ecclesiastes 12:13**

**Micah 6:8**

**Ephesians 2:10**

*iii) What is my condition/state-of-being before and after Christ?*

**Romans 3:23, 6:23**

**Colossians 2:12, 22**

*iv) What happens when we die? Is it different for believers and non-believers?*

**Philippians 1:21-23**

**2 Corinthians 5:8**

**John 14:2, 3**

**1 Thessalonians 4:14**

**Hebrews 9:27**

Matthew 25:31-46

II Thessalonians 2:1

That's enough to take in today. Don't you think?! Reflect on what you have seen today. Write out your prayer to the Lord.

## Day Two:

The Scriptures also help us respond in a godly way to our situations.

1) *Why is life so hard at times? How should we respond to difficult circumstances? Does God have a purpose in our suffering?*

a) **James 1:2-4**

b) **1 Peter 1:6-8**

c) **Hebrews 12:5-11**

d) **Zechariah 13:9**

e) John 9:2-3

f) Philippians 4:12

g) 2 Thessalonians 1:5

h) James 5:13



2) *What does the future hold? Who knows the future?*

a) **Proverbs 23:17, 18**

b) **Daniel 8:26**

c) **Revelations 22:12, 13**

d) **Matthew 24:35, 36**

- e) Recognizing these truths about your future, what does that mean for you personally?  
Will you choose to hope and persevere until the Day of Christ's return? Why or why not?

3) *Looking back over these questions and answers, why do you study the bible?*

You surely have many more questions than we have mentioned here. Studying the Bible gives God the chance to answer them and meet you in the midst of your circumstances. Dive in and know that if you seek Him, you will find Him. (Matthew 7:7)

Read p. 96-97 from **multiply**.

## Day Three:

### **Why did God give us the Bible? (cont.)**

Real Knowledge of the Word - Who/What is the Word? What is its power? What does it do? Write out the Scriptures. This will help you remember them and will slow you down to observe truth and be transformed by it.

**John 1:1, 2** (Compare with John 1:14, 17)

**Hebrews 4:12**

### To Enable Us to Live Godly Lives

1) 2 Timothy 3:16, 17 – List four things Scripture is “*profitable*” (*useful*, NIV) for:

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) What are the results?

- 2) Read, reread and observe 2 Peter 1:1-11 using the observation worksheet at the end of this lesson. Ask the 5Ws and H.

Who is it written by and to?

What does His divine power give us?

Where does this power come from?

Why has He given us these precious promises?

When will we be effective and productive in knowing Christ?

How should we live?

**Hint:** As you observe this passage, you will see a list of different character traits. When you come upon a list it can be helpful to number each separate item (1, 2, 3, etc.) in the passage and then note the topic in the margin with the number of items in the list. (i.e. "Add Character Traits: 1-8")

- a) Jot down your observations and 5Ws and H from 2 Peter 1:1-11. What do you see as you read through a couple of times? What stands out to you? Train yourself to ask/answer questions of the text as you read. Always ask yourself, "What does it say?" as you observe a passage. Use more paper as needed. Pray!
- b) Mark: "*Christ*," "*knowledge*," "*granted*," and "*partakers*." Also mark the corresponding synonyms and pronouns using different colors or shapes for easy recognition. Remember this is not to frustrate you or have you perfectly color the page, but to slow you down so you will discover God's Word for yourself!
- c) What do you learn from marking "*Christ*?" Who is He? What has He done for us according to this passage? What has He given us? Note where you find your answers.

d) List what you observe from “*knowledge.*” What comes to us through “*knowledge?*”  
Knowledge of whom? How do we get this knowledge?

e) What is “*granted*” us? How? For what purpose?

f) List what you learn from “*partakers.*” What are you a partaker of? How did you get this?  
What results from this partaking? *Now* what are you to do as a result?

Stop here today. Ask the Lord to bring this passage back to your mind and to reveal truth to you.  
Allowing time to meditate on Scripture is yet another way of listening for the Holy Spirit’s teaching.

## Day Four:

- 1) Reread 2 Peter 1:1-11 and review your observations. Invite the Holy Spirit to teach you and transform you into the likeness of Christ.
  
- 2) Using your word study tools (see Appendix for instructions) look up and note the meanings:
  - a) *Knowledge* (epignōsis - Strong's #1922: ἐπίγνωσις) – used in 2 Peter 1:2, 3, 8
  
  - b) *Knowledge* (gnosis - Strong's #1108: γνῶσις) – used in 2 Peter 1:5, 6
  
  - c) Take these definitions back to the text, meaning re-read the biblical text in light of what you understand about the full meaning of these words. What do you observe? What difference does this make to your understanding of the passage?
  
- 3) In verse 3, what has Jesus' divine power granted to us? How much? How? Through what?

- 4) Is there anything left out? How does this affect your view of your life and circumstances? How do we come to know Christ precisely and accurately? Hint: What are you doing?
  
- 5) In verse 4, what else has Jesus granted us? Why?
  
- 6) Look up “*partaker*” (koinōnos - Strong's #2844: κοιωνός) and note the meaning.
  
- 7) Summarize your findings. How is it that we are able to become partakers of the divine nature? Is it through your effort? Note where you find your answer.
  
- 8) List the character traits we are to add to our lives because we are partakers of the divine nature. Remember the power source that granted this nature to you (verses 3-4). How do they relate to one another?

9) Verse 8 is an “*If... then*” statement which reveals a condition to achieve the result. What is the condition revealed? What is the result? What kind of knowledge? Of whom?

10) What is the contrast in verse 9? What would keep a believer from having these qualities increase in his life? What has he forgotten?

11) THEREFORE.... Draw a BIG box around “*therefore.*” Whenever you see “*therefore*” ask, “What’s it there for?” Hint: This is always a statement of conclusion based on what came before. What is Peter’s conclusion in verses 10 and 11?

12) Summarize what the Holy Spirit has taught you in this passage. Be sure to include the power source and final results. Pray and meditate on these truths throughout your day.



## Day Five:

Read *p.98-105* from **multiply** and answer questions 3-5.

Finally, pray and take a quick look at the following verses:

### 1 PETER 2:1-2 NASB

- 1 Therefore, putting aside all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander,
- 2 like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation.

1) What are we to put aside?

2) What are we to replace these with?

3) How does a newborn long for milk?

4) What are we to long for like that?

5) What will be the result?

6) Do you long for the word like this? Ask the Lord to help you crave His word. Write out your prayer.

Read *p.105-106* from **multiply** and answer question #6.

2 PETER 1:1-11 NASB  
OBSERVATION WORKSHEET

- 1 Simon Peter, a bond-servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have received a faith of the same kind as ours, by the righteousness of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ:
- 2 Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord;
- 3 seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.
- 4 For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.
- 5 Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge,
- 6 and in your knowledge, self-control, and in your self-control, perseverance, and in your perseverance, godliness,
- 7 and in your godliness, brotherly kindness, and in your brotherly kindness, love.
- 8 For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 9 For he who lacks these qualities is blind or short-sighted, having forgotten his purification from his former sins.
- 10 Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble;
- 11 for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you.